

Move-in Guide

KANSAS STATE
COLLEGIAN



GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR FIRST DAY
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Simple tips make dorm life, first year easier

Mom and dad have left, and your roommate hasn't moved in yet. What do you do with the next few hours? You can sit in your room and be scared, or you can take steps to make your transition into college life a little easier. The following list includes some tips for your first year on campus you might not have considered.

ERIC DAVIS



SET BOUNDARIES

Any time you live with a new person, it is always important to establish boundaries. A lot of problems will be nipped in the bud if you and your roommate take a few minutes to let each other know what makes the other upset.

MUSIC PLAYER

Whether it's an iPod hooked up to computer speakers or a state-of-the-art Hi-Fi system, every room needs a way to pump up the jams. It is a great way to fill awkward silences or set the right kind mood for when friends come over. This is something no dorm room should be without.

SHOWER SANDALS

Though the shower floors in the residence halls are cleaned every day, showering barefoot makes many students nervous. This problem can be remedied easily by purchasing a pair of cheap rubber sandals, available in most stores. And you won't have to worry about getting warts on your feet.

LEARN CAMPUS

It's a good idea to walk around campus before the first day of school so you know where all your classrooms are. You will feel less nervous on the first day if you know where you're going.

MAKE FRIENDS

The best time to make friends in the dorms is the first few days after everyone has moved in. Your neighbors are in the same boat as you so take advan-

tage of this opportunity to meet new people.

NEW EXPERIENCES

College is full of wonderful opportunities to try new things. You might discover a new favorite res-

taurant, a new band or a hilarious TV show. Be willing to try new things.

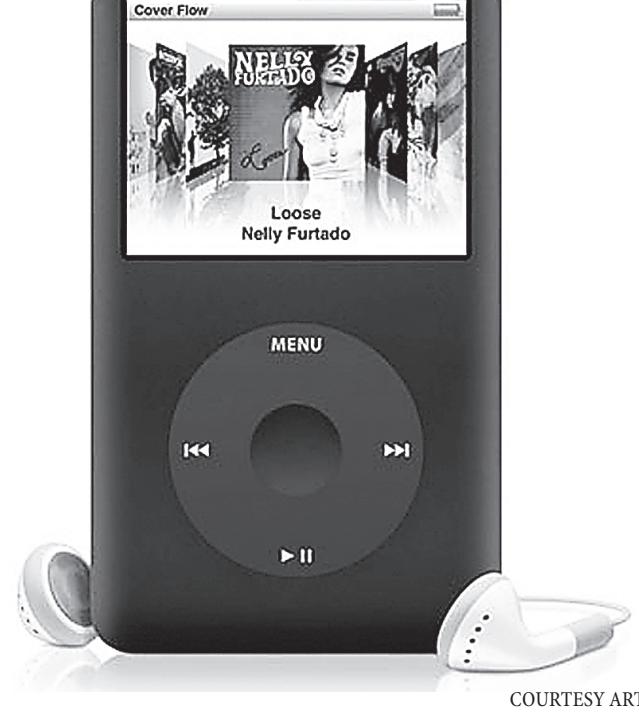
MORE OUTLETS

First, they stick you in a small room, and then you realize there is a severe lack of outlets. Every dorm room needs more. Before you start your college experience, make sure you pick up a few surge protectors so you can have power where you need it.

COOKING WITH A MICROWAVE

There is a blanket ban on most cooking methods while living in the residence halls, but the crafty dorm resident knows how to cook most food using a microwave. There are lots of books specifically written for this situation. Pick one up and learn how to feed yourself for the next few months.

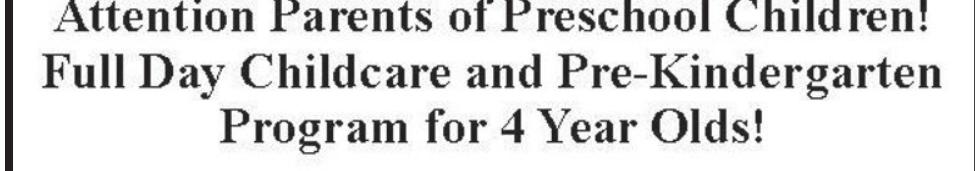
Christina Klein | COLLEGIAN



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COURTESY ART



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Colorful decorating ideas can help personalize a dorm room

By Chantelle Pritchett
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Transitioning from the plush environment of home to the sterile prison-cell residence hall room can be a bit rough at first. Most dorm rooms resemble the kind of cramped cinder-block rooms that are great to live in for a week at summer camp but not so great for the next nine months of your life.

Luckily, we are a generation that has grown up watching television shows like "Trading Spaces" and "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" so we have a general idea of how to organize our spaces. To help you get started, here are the five major areas to focus on.

PICK A COLOR SCHEME

Discuss with your roommate what type of color scheme works best for both of you. This does not mean you need to have a room straight out of "Better Homes and Gardens," but not clashing is always a bonus. Try to pick something that shows your personality but does not completely offend your roommate's taste.

NEATNESS COUNTS

Cleanliness is not always high on a college student's list of priorities, but nobody wants to live in the room that perpetually smells like stale pizza and dirty socks. Two factors that play into having a clean room

are staying organized and keeping the Febreeze handy. After living in a dorm room, you will have a newfound appreciation for storage units of every size, shape and color. Not enough can be said about having a few storage crates and closet and desk organizers.

BRIGHTEN UP THE WALLS

Brighten up those stark white walls with a little personalized flair. Posters are great, because they can add a pop of color to your wall with very little effort. If you are an avid movie buff, check out your local movie rental center for inexpensive movie posters. Another great option is taking snapshots of friends and family and making a collage on your wall. Not only does it break up the whiteness of the walls, but it is also comforting to have reminders of good memories.

CREATE COMFORT

Nothing feels better after hiking up the hill near Cardwell than plush carpet. Get rid of that cold and scratched tile with a soft area rug or two. Not only does it make your room look a million times better, but it is also comfortable to boot.

Next, make sure to have either a futon or a couple of chairs in your room. Futons are great for movie nights or hanging out with friends. Make sure the chair does not recline or you will wake up hours later on top of your wrinkled chem lab report.



Photo by Matt Castro | COLLEGIAN

Residence hall rooms can be bland and plain, but students can use posters, Christmas lights, picture frames and other knick-knacks to spruce up a room.

EXPRESS YOURSELF

Picture frames, knick-knacks and good lighting can go a long way in sprucing up your room. The possibilities are endless, and every major retail chain offers a wide range of products to outfit your room.

Finally, do not neglect your door. It is the entrance to your home, and though you do not need to pull a Martha Stewart and have your door decorated for every major holiday, a dry-erase surface would not hurt. A white board is a great way to keep up with friends, classes and parties. Plus every once in a while you will enjoy reading the witty comments left on your board by complete strangers.

Hopefully, these steps help you with your decorating mission. It's also a good idea to go check out other dorm rooms. Not only will you get great ideas, but you will also meet new people on your floor.

What's better than just sitting in lecture?

Sitting in lecture thinking about what to eat for lunch!

Check out Menu Mania every Monday for some good inspiration.

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Living life backwards

Sophomore makes decision to move into residence hall after living off-campus during his freshman year

I've always been a roll-with-the-punches, fly-by-the-seat-of-my-pants kind of guy.

This particular trait has taken me down some interesting and strange paths in my life, including living my first year of college in an apartment followed by spending my sophomore year in a residence hall.

This fall will be my first semester living in the dorms. During my senior year of high school, three of my friends and I decided it would be a great idea to get an apartment together. It was going to be cheaper, and we wanted to be a little more independent, but a large factor was that we were going to have a lot more space than an itty bitty dorm room.

Our gamble paid off. Life in University Crossing Apartments was spectacular. After the first semester

was up, it was time to start figuring out where everyone was going to live the following year. One roommate had a couple of old friends who were coming to K-State, and he was going to get an apartment with them. Another roomie was leaving to live with some new friends he had made that year.

And then there were two.

So my unofficial BFF and I went hunting for a place of our own. After coming to the realization that a two-bedroom apartment was out of our budget, we got two new friends to join in on our search as well. It didn't take long to find an affordable four-bedroom apartment that was available, and everything looked like it was going to work out.

That was until the new guys talked to their parents about it, and they were less than thrilled about them leaving the dorms after only one year.

Once more, we were down to our dynamic duo. With our income and lack of roommates to share the

bills, we were out of ideas. That was until the new guys had an epiphany.

"Dude, why don't you just move into a suite in Haymaker with us?"

We looked at each other for a moment and both gave that "I dunno, why not?" shoulder shrug. The thought had never really occurred to us, but with meal plans set up and contracts signed, we were past the point of no return.

We'd be much closer for class, we would have meals taken care of and we would meet a lot of new people. It was a win-win situation.

The only real regret I have from all this is that it gets tiring having to explain this story to people who are confused that we did everything backwards. In the end I would do it all the same though. Taking life as it comes can lead to a hectic life style, but it makes for an interesting story later.

Matt Binter is a sophomore in print journalism. Please send comments to edge@spub.ksu.edu.

Flow Chart on COLLEGE LIVING

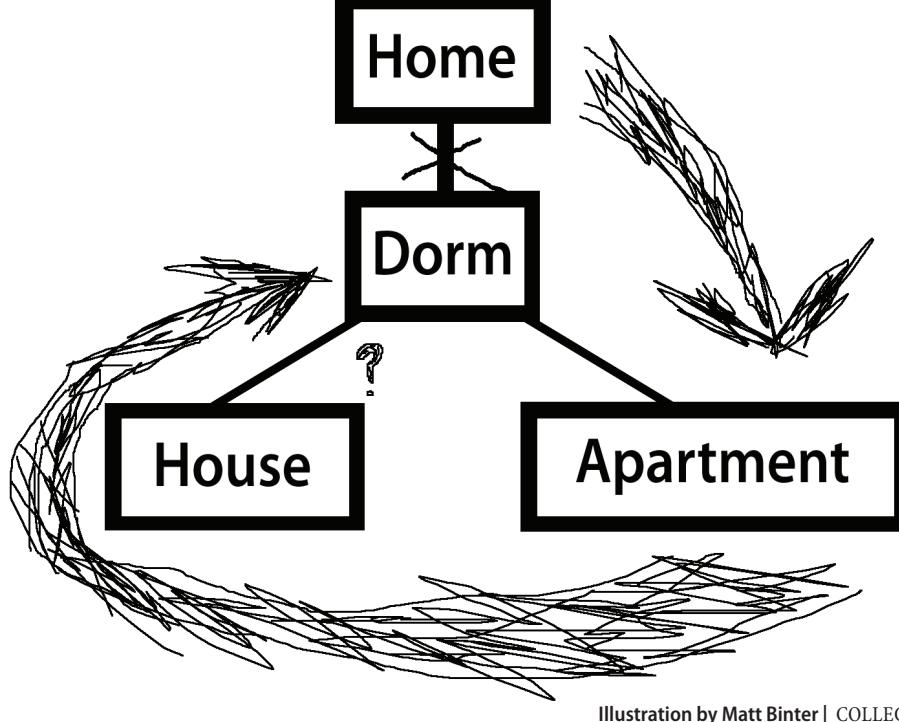


Illustration by Matt Binter | COLLEGIAN

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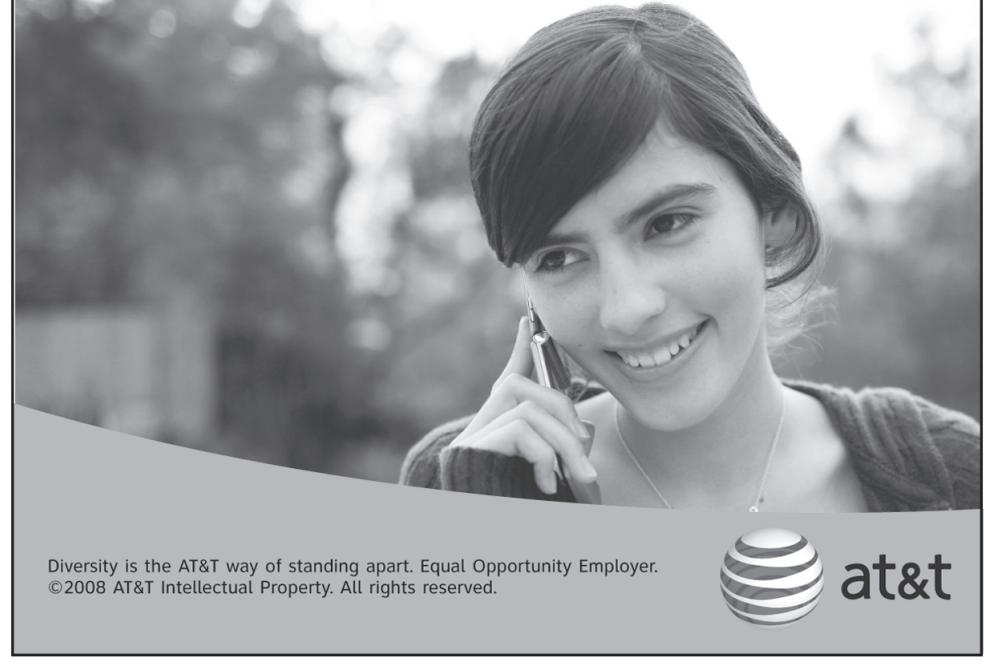
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Organization to offer furniture to new international students

By Hannah Blick
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Just having your own bed to sleep on can make even a foreign country feel like home.

That's why the Helping International Students program and Chi Alpha will sponsor a furniture giveaway for K-State international students from 8 to 10 a.m. on Saturday at the HIS office building parking lot, 1021 Denison Ave., said Kristen Geri, associate coordinator for HIS.

"Many of these students come here from their homes without furniture," Geri said. "We'd like to help them get settled in."

All K-State international students are invited to the giveaway, and parking will be available across from the HIS office building in the lot between Ackert and Durland halls.

Geri said HIS will give away furniture items donated by Manhattan area church members, including single and double beds, couches, tables and chairs. She also suggested students arrive at the HIS office building a

few minutes before 8 p.m. if they have a specific item they want to pick out.

"It'll be first come, first served," Geri said. "I would definitely recommend [international students] get here a little early to get in line."

She said volunteers will have the international students get in line as they arrive, and then each student will get to go through once and choose one furniture item they would like to have.

"Then, if there are students who want to go through a second time, we can send them through again after everyone's been through," Geri said.

If international students do not have transportation for the furniture they choose, she said HIS will provide trucks to move the students' items to their home.

If any students or Manhattan community members have furniture they would like to donate to the giveaway, they can bring them to the HIS office parking lot at 8 on Saturday morning.

Geri said HIS cannot take hide-a-beds or clothes washers and dryers. She also

said extremely heavy items like large metal desks would be too difficult for an international student to use, so HIS cannot accept heavy pieces.

"Some of the international students will move three times in one year, so it's not practical for them to have those heavy items," Geri said.

Heejin Oh, international student from China and intern with HIS, said HIS is expecting more than 100 international students to attend the furniture giveaway.

She also said there are volunteers signed up to help with the giveaway, but more volunteers would be appreciated. For more information on how you can help out, contact Oh at 785-317-7593.

There also will be information on other HIS programs available at the giveaway, including a sign-up for any international students who would like an American friend, Geri said.

"We have lots of American students who are signed up and ready to go, and we'd like to give international students the chance to make an American friend here," she said.

Warm welcome



John Clark | COLLEGIAN

Corrie Williams, junior in music education, posts a banner in Ford Hall. "It's fun to be an resident advisor," Williams said. "You get to meet new girls and watch them develop. I'm excited to get new girls in Ford and make new friends."

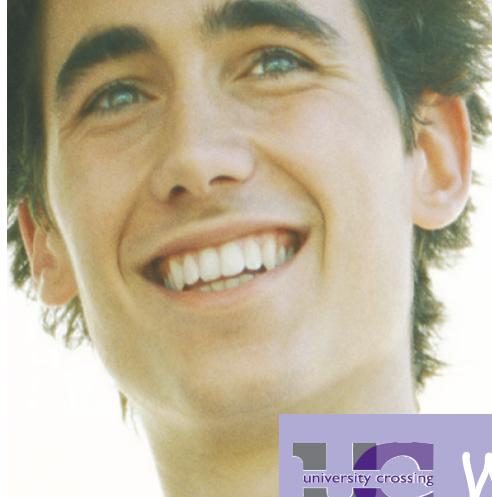
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Former fifth-year columnist offers advice to incoming freshmen

Hello, and welcome to K-State, babies!

The next few weeks might be a bit overwhelming for you, so they've asked me to come out of retirement from being the fifth-year advice columnist to answer a few of your questions. Keep in mind I'm in no position to be giving useful advice, but it will be advice nonetheless.

You'll be moving into the residence halls right about now, and you're going to see a ton of new faces – some of which are going to be very ugly, some gorgeous, but either way, most of them will be friendly.

My best advice here is just to say hi and meet as many people as you can. If you only meet one person and that person turns out to be a jerk, you're kind of in a tough boat. However, if you meet 20 new people, than you'll have the opportunity to weed out the bad friends and still have a healthy core of entertaining people you'll get along with.

You might be scared to put yourself out there and introduce yourself to the beautiful girl down the hall, but you have to keep in mind she's in the same position you are. Everyone's a little scared right now, and it's a lot easier to become someone's friend now, as opposed to later when most students begin forming cliques and what not.

Help her carry a few boxes, and then ask her if she wants to get ice cream later. I hear Call Hall has a delicious selection, and it's just down the street.

So go move some boxes for the girl down the hall. I promise you she'll be appreciative and she probably won't mind hanging out sometime.

Meet people. I can't stress that enough. No matter what people thought of you in your hometown, you're not strange anymore. I can guarantee there's at least a hundred other students here that are just as weird as you. Whatever weird things you do, there are clubs at K-State for it where you can meet other weirdos and have a ball.

I'm in five or six clubs myself and have met a number of my friends through such activities. And if somehow there isn't a club for your niche, you can always start one. I started the Disc Golf Club a few years back, and now it's one of the biggest, most popular clubs on campus.

Not really, but I bet we have a heck of a lot more fun than those other clubs. Whatever you're into, you'll find others like you here at K-State.

Roommates are the big issue though.



ADAM REICHENBERGER



Christina Klein | COLLEGIAN

If you can't get along with who you live with, it makes your time here a little harder to deal with at first. However, I met a lot of my current friends for that very reason. I didn't get along with my freshman roommates and quickly branched off, meeting the neighbors.

That was ages ago, however, so except for me staying here for grad school, everyone else has moved on.

Every day I get a call from my friends out in Los Angeles telling me about the dolphins they just swam with or how terrifying seals are out in the ocean. I've got friends in Dallas, Portland, Ore., New York, Aspen, Colo., Phoenix, Louisville, Ky., and Memphis, Tenn.

The point is the friends you meet now are most likely the friends you'll

have for the rest of your life. But if you don't try, you'll never meet those friends.

I feel now is a good time to warn you against long-distance relationships. Don't. That's my advice. Don't. I know you've got your sweetheart back home, and you love her, and things will never come between you, and everything's perfect because you're not like other couples – yeah, I was telling myself that, too.

Don't be naïve.

High school relationships weren't built to last and certainly aren't meant to last. If they do, you're just one of those annoying couples everyone hates.

Seriously, though, it's going to be a pain in the butt for both of you to try and keep a relationship going. There are thousands of single students here, and

you're going to find yourself attracted to most of them. But besides that, there's just so much you're going to miss out on by holding on to something that, I promise you, won't last.

I know you hate to hear it, but it's true. Right now you need to be having fun with your new friends, doing crazy things and not be bogged down by relationships. Don't get me wrong, girl-friends are wonderful – I love them. But right now it's better for both you and her to go your separate ways.

Go have fun and let me know if there's anything you need. I'll be around ... still.

Adam Reichenberger is a graduate student in economics. Please send comments to edge@spub.ksu.edu

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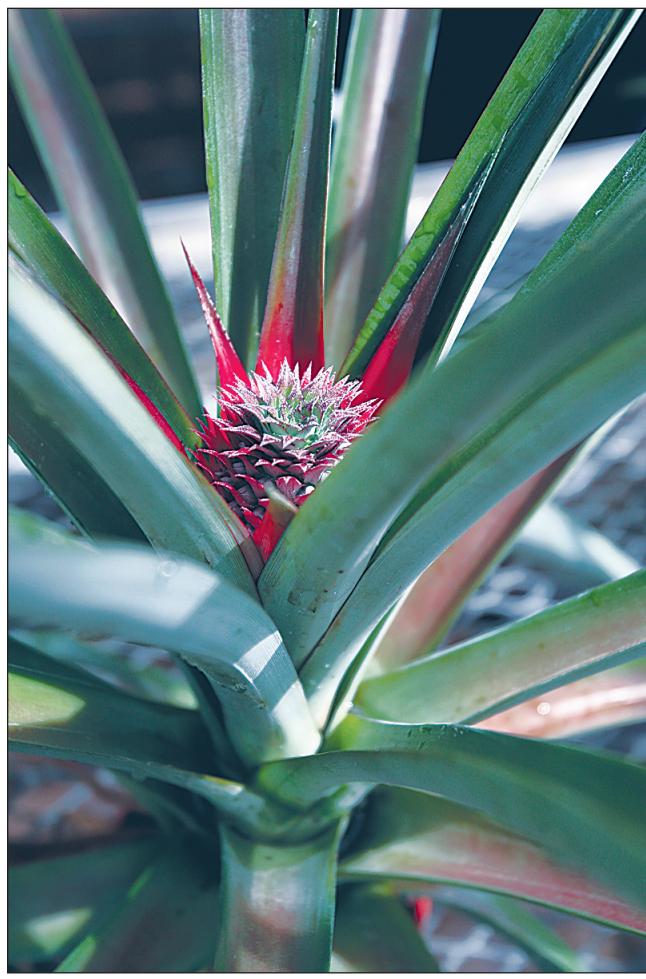
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Professor recommends low-maintenance plants for students



By Sarah Burford
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

A little green is all you need.

Plants can bring life to a college living space, but most students don't have time, money or space to take care of them. Richard Mattson, professor in horticulture forestry and recreation, suggested low-light, low-maintenance plants that are ideal for college living spaces.

SANSVIERIA

These plants are native to African rain forests. They have long, waxy leaves with golden edges or stripes. Mattson said they need to be watered only about once every six weeks.

BEGONIA

Pretty pink flowers adorn some begonia plants.

Others, like the "beef steak," have bright red leaves. Begonias require low light.

ASPIDISTRA

Mattson said the "cast-iron" aspidistra is especially hardy. It can take almost anything you throw into the pot. "It's the only plant I know of that can survive in bars," Mattson said.

PINEAPPLE PLANT

Mini, red pineapples grow in the middle of the plant's fountain-like leaves. Mattson said people can grow their own plants by cutting the tops off pineapples and planting the fruit in soil. Or one can place an apple core in the middle of a plant, which will cause it to produce pineapples.

TROPICAL DESERT PLANTS

Mattson said these grow

best in window light. They need water about once per month. The "panda bear" plant has dark leaves edged with orange spots. The "burrow's tail" has smooth, bluish-green leaves. Aloe, cow's tongue, partridge breast and elephant jade are other examples of desert plants.

Other low-light plants include rhododendrons and pepperomias, Mattson said.

Mattson said the horticulture club sells low-light plants in Throckmorton Hall at various times during the year starting in September.



Photos by Joslyn Brown | COLLEGIAN

The pineapple plant (LEFT) and tropical desert plants (ABOVE) are arranged by Big Lakes, an organization that helps developmentally challenged adults to grow and maintain the plants. Richard Mattson, professor in horticulture forestry and recreation, said K-State gets its plants from Big Lakes.

got memories? we do.

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Trial and error

K-State senior finds that making small mistakes often can be necessary for learning big lessons

As a senior, I guess I'm supposed to have advice to impart to students who are new to K-State and to college in general.

I'm not sure that's true, but reflecting back on my college career so far, I don't think I've screwed up too much. My grades are decent, I haven't been arrested, and I've only been tagged in a small number of embarrassing photos on Facebook.

GRADES

One thing I'm not proud of is that I have failed a class. But it wasn't just a class; I failed myself, my professors, and — one of the hardest ones to accept — my mom.

There's nothing easy about calling home to pass on news like that.

I know there are a good number of students who will never receive a B at K-State, let alone a failing grade. But for the rest of us, there is a likelihood of receiving a D or an F at some point during college. Luckily, we can retake classes, and I know I appreciate second chances.

INVOLVEMENT

Another part of college I look back on



JACQUE HAAG

with regret is my attempt to get involved during my freshman year. I lived off campus, and I didn't have a roommate or friends from the dorms like other freshmen did. I knew I had to make a special effort.

At first, I was on the right track: I had a job on campus where I had the opportunity to get to know about 60 other people; I was getting involved with a Christian group on campus; and attending class helped.

But I became ill and dropped off the face of the planet. I didn't make it to class as much, and I gave up going to my Bible study group to try and stay ahead with my classes.

The relationships I had made suffered, and I made it impossible for my new friends to even offer me support during my difficult time.

FINANCES

So now that I've bared my screw-ups for all to see, let me share what I think has been the biggest mistake I made during college.

I never took out any student loans. But I'm not bragging.

I had a prejudice against accepting loans. I had seen first-hand how people close to me struggled with debt, and I didn't want that for myself. And I had too much pride to accept help. I wanted to pay for college with money and scholarships I earned myself.

What that meant was I usually worked

two jobs and at least 55 hours a week in addition to being a full-time student.

Not only was I not earning the grades I was capable of, I was running on too little sleep and too much stress. What's worse — I ended up with money troubles anyway.

I realized only recently that if I hadn't had such a pompous attitude about accepting loans, I wouldn't have had so many setbacks with my classes and finances — and I would probably be graduating on time.

I tried so hard not to make mistakes in the first place, but in the end, I got more out of making them anyway.

Because of these experiences, I am more adamant about attending class and being more diligent in my studies.

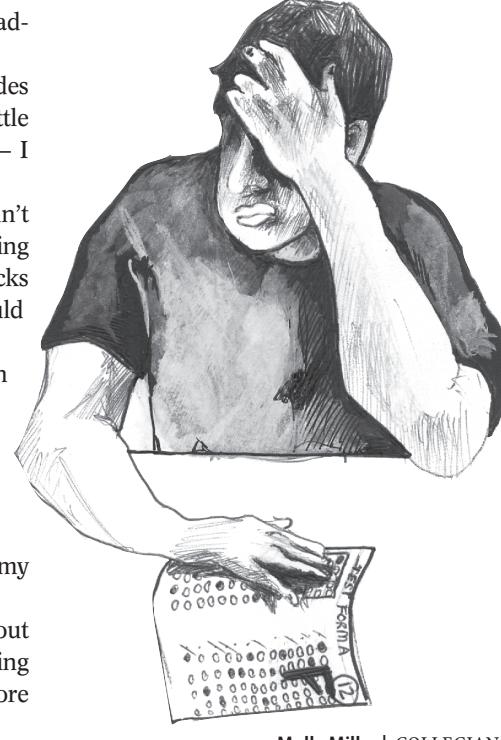
I don't take for granted the effect my friends and interests have on my life.

And — you guessed it — I'm taking out my first loan. I'm looking forward to working less, focusing more on class, spending more time with friends and less stress.

I've learned what they say about finding yourself in college is true, and what I found was I needed to make a few mistakes to learn even bigger lessons.

I decided not to dwell on the missteps I've taken on my college path but instead to let my mistakes define my character in a positive way.

And when I finally get around to grad-



Molly Miller | COLLEGIAN

uating, I'm sure I will face the "real world" ready to learn from my mistakes out there too.

Jacque Haag is a senior in print journalism. Please send comments to news@collegian.ksu.edu.

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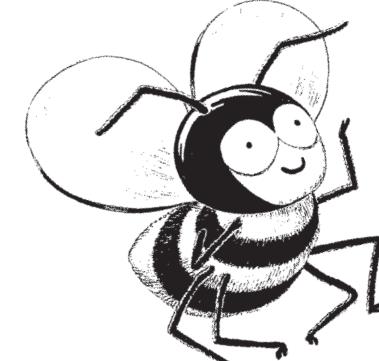
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K-STATE STUDENT UNION BOOKSTORE

Local thrift stores offer one-of-a-kind items super stores cannot

By Eric Davis
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

All students need a variety of elements to personalize their new room in the residence halls. Stores like Wal-Mart and Target are good for ordinary, everyday items, but where should you go if you are interested in finding your next favorite T-shirt or sign warning intruders of dangerous kangaroos? The answer, my friends, is thrift stores.

While Manhattan is a smaller town, it still has several thrift stores with a great selection and even better prices.

"Thrift stores are dirty!" is a common complaint most give when asked why they don't like secondhand shops. A quick look around the Manhattan area quickly disproves this nasty rumor, as anyone who frequents them will tell you.

There is also an unwarranted belief that the items purchased in these stores are beaten up and worthless.

The people who own and operate these stores have to make a living. How are they going to make a living if the items they peddle are unusable? Checkmate.

If you get everything moved in and your room

still needs that special touch, stop by one of Manhattan's thrift stores.

GRAND OL' TRUNK

While the Grand Ol' Trunk is outside of town, it offers the best selection of items of any thrift store in the area.

Those looking for an off-beat T-shirt or sweater should make the trip out to Pillsbury Drive and have a look around.

There are racks and racks of clothing for all ages for both men and women. No other store in town offers the coat and jacket selection that the Trunk does.

The Trunk also has a furniture section that offers a wide variety of pieces for all areas of the house. It's a great place to look if you need a bookcase, a nightstand, TV cabinet or an end table.

Roger Andres, co-owner of the Grand Ol' Trunk, said he gets most of the furniture from leftover garage sales and estates. He also said people can sell some items to the shop.

"We get a lot of furniture this time of year," Andres said. "There are people who move in and have too much or are moving and

don't want their furniture anymore."

There is also a bookstore near the main building that has been in business for about eight years.

SALVATION ARMY

Located on Poyntz Avenue, the Salvation Army is another of the thrift stores that calls the Manhattan area home. While it is smaller than the Trunk, the selection is by no means lacking.

Usually known for clothes, shoppers can find a variety of items for all occasions. Airsoft and paintball enthusiasts can find a variety of old Military fatigues to use while practicing their hobby.

One of the more interesting elements in the shop is the collection of outdated audio entertainment. Shoppers can find old vinyls, cassette tapes and even a few 8-track cassettes from time to time. You will be hard pressed to find "Introducing the Beatles," but if "Lawrence Welk Sings His Christmas Favorites" is your kind of music, pop on over to the Salvation Army.

Even if you don't have a record player, it's easy to hang a record on the wall to showcase your taste in music.



Photos by Matt Castro | COLLEGIAN
Grand Ol' Trunk, located outside of town along U.S. Highway 24, is a thrift store that offers a diverse selection of items, ranging from furniture to clothes.

OTHER THRIFT STORES IN THE AREA:

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My Friend's Closet
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785-537-8909

Seven Dolors Budget Shop
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Customers browse through the clothes racks at the Grand Ol' Trunk.

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ABOVE: Fans crowd the stage Monday night while **Nic Trotter**, guitarist for The Leo Project, shows the masses his guitar skills. Trotter has played for The Leo Project since 2005.

RIGHT: Damien "Woo" Salazar of the Woo Band pulls back from the microphone Monday night while playing at PJ's Pub. The Woo Band's most recent album is titled "Heavy" in 2007.



Photos by Nathaniel LaRue | COLLEGIAN

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COMICS BY NOLAN FABRICIUS AND JEFF BROWN



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'Mindset List' names 30 ways this year's freshmen view the world

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beloit College's annual Mindset List, providing a snapshot of the world view of the school's incoming freshmen, for the Class of 2012:

Students entering college for the first time this fall were generally born in 1990.

For these students, Sammy Davis Jr., Jim Henson, Ryan White, Stevie Ray Vaughan and Freddy Krueger have always been dead.

1. Harry Potter could be their classmate and might even be playing on their Quidditch team.

2. Since they were in diapers, karaoke machines have been annoying people at parties.
3. They have always been looking for Carmen San Diego.
4. GPS satellite navigation systems have always been available.
5. Coke and Pepsi have always used recycled plastic bottles.
6. Shampoo and conditioner have always been available in the same bottle.
7. Gas stations have never fixed flats, but most serve
8. Their parents may have dropped them in shock when they heard George Bush announce "tax revenue increases."
9. Electronic filing of tax returns has always been an option.
10. Girls in head scarves have always been part of the school fashion scene.
11. All have had a relative — or known about a friend's relative — who died comfortably at home with hospice.
12. As a precursor to
- cappuccino.

"whatever," they have recognized that some people "just don't get it."

13. Universal Studios has always offered an alternative to Mickey in Orlando.
14. Grandma has always had wheels on her walker.
15. Martha Stewart Living has always set the style.
16. Haagen-Dazs ice cream has always come in quarts.
17. Club Med resorts have always been places to take the whole family.
18. WWW has never stood

for World Wide Wrestling.

19. Films have never been X rated, only NC-17.

20. The Warsaw Pact is as hazy for them as the League of Nations was for their parents.

21. Students have always been "Rocking the Vote."

22. Clarence Thomas has always sat on the Supreme Court.

23. Schools have always been concerned about multiculturalism.

24. We have always known that "All I Ever Really

Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten."

25. There have always been gay rabbis.

26. Wayne Newton has never had a mustache.

27. College grads have always been able to Teach for America.

28. IBM has never made typewriters.

29. Roseanne Barr hasn't been invited to sing the National Anthem again.

30. They have never been able to color a tree using a raw umber Crayola.

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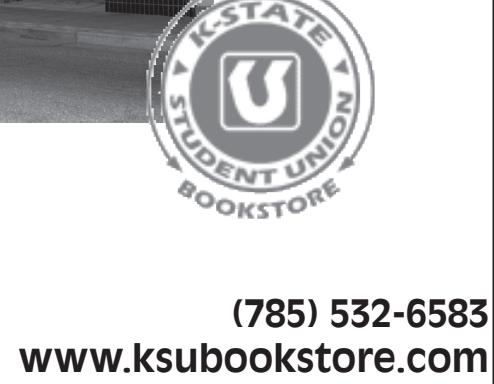
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